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TRADE AND FINANCE DATA, DECEMBER 1953,
EXTRACTED FROM CHINESE COMMUNIST PRESS

TRADE INTERFLOW CONFERENCE -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 22 Dec 53

According to incomplete statistics there were 7,700 trade interflow conferences held in the primary markets of China during 1952, primary markets being those on the hsien and hsiang level. The value of commodities sold or exchanged at these conferences was 16.3 trillion yuan, and the average value of commodities exchanged at each conference was 21 billion yuan.

BUDGET -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 20 Dec 53

By 8 December 1953, the North China Administrative Area had already exceeded its annual tax collection quota by 4 percent. The amount collected was 70 percent greater than that for 1952 and 100 percent greater than that for 1951. It is estimated that by the end of the year collections will reach 110 percent of the quota.

Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 6 Dec 53

The annual savings quota assigned to China's state-operated coal mines under the increase production, practice economy plan has already been exceeded. By the end of October, state collieries had paid into the state a net profit of 143 billion yuan, a sum exceeding the original savings quota by 30 percent.

Tientsin Ta Kung Pao, 13 Dec 53

By the end of the first 10 days in November, state food agencies engaged in the processing and distribution of food had effected savings amounting to 274 billion yuan under the increase production, practice economy movement for the fourth quarter of 1953.

INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 6 Dec 53

Twenty Tientsin factories have become public and private jointly operated factories within the past year. Of this number, the Ch'i-hsing Photographic Equipment Company receives its investment capital from the Peiping Hsing-yeh Investment Company and the Inner Mongolian Ta-ch'eng Dyestuff Factory receives its investment capital from the Inner Mongolia People's Government.

CONSTRUCTION BONDS -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 26 Dec 53

The subscription quota for construction bonds assigned to privately operated industrial and commercial firms, private stockholders of publicly and privately operated enterprises, and urban inhabitants has been set at 3.2 trillion yuan.

STATE TRADE MARK-UP -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 1 Dec 53

On 5 October, the Hsü-ch'ang Special Administrative District Grain Company directed the Yü Hsien Grain Company to adjust its selling price of wheat. The directive read: "The official selling price of wheat shall be 5.6 percent higher than the existing wheat purchase price in Yü Hsien."

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COTTON PURCHASE PRICE -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 1 Dec 53

In 1953, the Third Session of the All-China Cotton Inspection Conference established quality standards to govern the purchase price paid by cooperatives for raw and ginned cotton. After allowing for a water content of 8 percent in a given amount of raw cotton, the price paid out for ginned cotton in the Peiping area would be 9,350 yuan per catty.

GRAIN PRICES -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 2 Dec 53

A farmer in K'uan-tien Hsien in Liaotung Province accumulated more than 10,000 catties of grain in the hope of selling it at a higher price. After being instructed in the general line on the transition to Socialism, he sold the grain to the state at the price of 410 yuan per catty.

Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 6 Dec 53

The agricultural production cooperative at Chang-kuo-chuang near Peiping collectively sold 8,000 catties of surplus grain to the state and deposited the entire sum received in payment (9,310,000 yuan) in the bank. During a 3-day period in November, 53.8 percent of all payments received in this village for surplus grain were deposited in the bank in savings accounts.

RICE PRICES -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 1 Dec 53

Private merchants of Fukien Province are offering 2,000-3,000 yuan more than the official price for a picul of rice. In Hunan Province, a middle farmer was dissuaded from selling rice to a private merchant when he was reminded that during the first 6 months of 1953 government rice sold for 720 yuan per catty, while private merchants sold rice at 1,200 yuan per catty.

PRICE INFORMATION -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 2 Dec 53

Due to scarcity of commodities, the market price of wire, wooden and pottery utensils, nails, and other commodities in Mi-shan Hsien, Kirin Province, is twice or more the official price. For example, the official price for a kilogram of foreign nails (four-tenths inch size) in Harbin is 24,400 yuan, but the market price in Mi-shan Hsien is 80,000 yuan.

COOPERATIVE TRADE -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 2 Dec 53

Because of inadequate transportation facilities and deficiencies in the cooperative trade system, Sikang provincial cooperative retail sales during the first 6 months of 1953 fulfilled only 14.84 percent of the annual plan and purchases fulfilled only 18.33 percent of the annual plan.

Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 5 Dec 53

Cooperatives in Shansi Province have supplied to the farmers during the third quarter of 1953 a total of 24 million catties of fertilizer, 2,626 farm tools, 2,164 water wheels, 2,630 pieces of farm machinery, 300,000 catties of insecticides, and a large number of livestock.

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Cooperatives in Honan Province are supplying more than 12,600 farm tools, 100,000 plow shares and shovels, a large amount of farm machinery spare parts, and 800,000 cattles of steel and iron for purchase by the farmers after selling their surplus grain.

Cooperatives in Suiyuan Province are planning to supply more than 47,000 pieces of farm machinery and tools, 2,000 head of cattle, and 1,000 head of horses for purchase by the farmers at this time.

CREDIT COOPERATIVES -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 20 Dec 53

The 395 credit cooperatives and 2,315 mutual aid credit teams, with a combined membership of 336,000 are actively supporting the general line on the transition to Socialism in the East China Area. As a result of the grain sales movement and the campaign for savings among the peasants, new credit cooperatives are being established to provide peasants with savings and credit facilities.

HANDICRAFT INDUSTRY -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 28 Dec 53

During the fourth quarter of 1953 and the first quarter of 1954, the government will furnish supply and marketing cooperatives with large amounts of lumber and scrap iron. Under this plan, some 150,000 square meters of lumber will be distributed to these cooperatives for distribution to the handicraft industries engaged in the manufacture of agricultural equipment, as well as to farmers for the construction of buildings and homes. In addition to some 19,000 tons of scrap iron to be supplied by the government, the supply and marketing cooperatives will have access to about 91,000 tons of scrap iron to be purchased by the All-China Federation of Cooperatives for distribution to handicraft industries and handicraft industry production cooperatives.

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